

French Minister Tries to Halt Rumors of U. S. Role in Mutiny

Couve de Murville Cites Kennedy's Notes to De Gaulle, but Stops Short of Flat Denial of Complicity by C. I. A.

By ROBERT C. DOTY

Special to The New York Times.

PARIS, May 5 — France's Foreign Minister sought today to quell rumors that United States agents were involved in the recent Algerian mutiny but he stopped short of a flat denial.

In an appearance before a private session of the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, the minister, Maurice Couve de Murville, was reported to, have said that France had never doubted the position of the United States Government of support for President de Gaulle in the face of a cabal of rebellious generals.

This had been confirmed by two messages from President Kennedy to General de Gaulle, he said.

The incident, he said, was closed.

Since the early days of the military putsch of April 22, reports circulated here and were printed first in the Soviet press and then in the French press that "certain members" of "certain American services"—and the Central Intelligence Agency was clearly the target—had encouraged the rebellious generals.

The motive of the agency was to block communism from taking over an independent Algeria. It had been reported that some Government officials helped spread these charges.

Allegations Rejected

Contrary to certain insinuations, M. Couve de Murville said, the French Government had absolutely nothing to do with the growth of these rumors which were spread, furthermore, in a much wider context and the French press only reprinted what had been published abroad.

His statement made two points: that the government here had confidence in the good-will of the United States Government and that France

was innocent of helping along rumors to the contrary. He did not, however, issue anything like the categorical denial that United States officials would like to hear from a responsible French source.

French sources said the Foreign Minister had spoken in this vein in an effort to remove suspicions that the rumor campaign was designed to put President Kennedy in a position of weakness when he comes here for a state visit May 31-June 2.

The minister simply absolved Mr. Kennedy and the United States Government of any blame for possible actions by irresponsible subordinates.

The encounter between Mr. Kennedy and General de Gaulle will have an "exceptional importance," the Foreign Minister said, "for a review of all major Atlantic and international questions."



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DISCUSSES ALGERIA:
Maurice Couve de Murville,
French Foreign Minister.

Miami-Havana Flights Resume

MIAMI, May 4 (UPI)—Pan American World Airways will resume its daily round-trip flight from Miami to Havana tomorrow, the airline announced late today.